GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1525
ANSWERED ON:03.03.2006
GRANTS FOR RESEARCH
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scientists from eminent institutions take grants for their research projects;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether most of the scientists have failed in their research and have not refunded the grants taken from the Government;

(d) if so, whether CAG has objected to this as reported in The Times of India dated February 6, 2006 under caption 'CAG wants scientists to pay back';

(e) if so, whether the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) has pursued the matter with the institutions where these scientists are working; and

(f) If so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a)&(b): Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi, provides Research opportunities to well established, recognized, eminent scientists and young scientist medal awardees. Research support is in the form of honorarium and contingency for three years to enable them to continue their research and similarly for young scientist medal awardees to pursue their research career uninterrupted and to enable them to place themselves at appropriate scientific positions.

(c) to (f): No Sir, the concerned scientists are eminent researchers and fellows of the science academy and have greatly contributed to Indian science in their respective field of research. Grants are released to the scientific institutions for their research work and the institutions send their Utilization Certificates from time to time. Any unspent balance indicated in the Utilization Certificate is processed as per the exiting procedure. CAG has observed non-submission of utilization certificate/refund of unspent balance from only a few institutions. INSA has already pursued the matter of utilization certificates/unspent balance with the concerned institutions and the same are now being gradually received